

SECRET

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12 April 1982

From: [] NIC/AG

To : Henry Rowen, C/NIC

Re : Part III F, NSSD 1-82

Part III F, Security Assistance, was brought before the President and Judge Clark over the weekend. They were apparently persuaded of the salience of the issue. The President wishes to challenge Congress on the matter, declaring that if Congress wishes to cut the defense budget or eliminate waste, the Administration will show them something (e.g., security assistance) that is cost effective. He will, therefore, ask the Congress to alter existing legislation so as to remove those strictures that currently hamstring the security assistance program.

State, while pleased by this turn of events, raised the question of timing. R. Burt noted that any effort to bring Congress around required considerable preparation and spadework and that he feared that such an effort, prior to the congressional elections, would lead to even more restrictive legislation.

We noted the Director's keen interest in the issue and requested the addition to III F. of material reflecting the demand side of the issue. This, we were told, would be done.

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[] informed me that the Director's schedule on security assistance is roughly as follows:

(a) By the end of this week, a paper by [] entitled LDC Attitudes Toward Involvement with the US and the USSR.

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(b) By the middle of next week, the cumulation of a complete data set on aid recipients and donors.

(c) A more comprehensive paper in from 4 to 5 weeks.

He indicated, moreover, that he did not think the Director would wish or need a brief paper from us for the NSC meeting. Instead, the Director would comfortably "wing it."